

fw 583

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

25X1A

COUNTRY Lebanon/USSR

SUBJECT Strategic Deliveries to Black Sea Ports
25X1A

PLACE ACQUIRED
(BY SOURCE)

DATE ACQUIRED
(BY SOURCE)

DATE (OF INFO.) 13 Nov 53

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ORR NO.	
DAS NO.	
OCI NO.	

DATE DISTR. 20 Jan 54

NO. OF PAGES 1

NO. OF ENCLS.

SUPP. TO
REPORT NO.

1. With the aid of a former secretary of the Lebanese Embassy in Paris, an organization has been set up within the last month, probably during Oct 1953, for delivery of so-called strategic material, between Lebanon and various Black Sea ports.
2. The method used is as follows: The firm of Pechiney has taken the former secretary of embassy into its own service. On the firm's letterhead appear export state-ments for aluminum and copper (scrap). These are ostensibly being shipped from Lebanon to Antwerp. But after the false papers have been stamped, the commodities declaration is altered and they go to Italy. Here a specious declaration to take them to Lebanon is provided. But, in fact, the consignment is now sent to the Black Sea.
3. Eventually, the Belgian authorities in Antwerp noticed that the goods, ostensibly consigned to Antwerp, were not coming in. They warned the Allied Control Commission. The source remarks that this is merely one example of similar chicanery by Lebanese firms.

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